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Austin, TX 78731-4280
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REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

VIA ECFS

June 27, 2014

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: **REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT** – *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90;
Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, WC Docket No. 11-42

Request that Information Submitted to the Commission be Withheld from Public Inspection Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §0.459 and 5 U.S.C. §552(b)(4): Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan and Service Outage reporting included in FCC Form 481

Confidential Financial Information – Subject to Protective Order in WC Docket Nos. 10-90, 07-135, 05-337, 03-109, CC Docket Nos. 01-92, 96-45, GN Docket No. 09-51, WT Docket No. 10-208, Before the Federal Communications Commission

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In accordance with the annual reporting requirements of 47 C.F.R. §§54.313 and 54.422, Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (the Cooperative), Study Area Code 442168, is submitting a completed FCC Form 481 to the Commission via its Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) in WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 11-42. The Cooperative, by its authorized representative, hereby requests confidential treatment of three attachments to its FCC Form 481: (1) the five-year service quality improvement plan, (2) the financial annual report and (3) Service Outage Reporting (Voice), all of which were redacted in the ECFS submission. The request for confidential treatment of the five-year plan and the outage reporting is being made pursuant to Section 0.459 of the Commission's rules and Exemption 4 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The request for confidential treatment of the financial annual report is being made pursuant to the FCC's November 16, 2012 *Protective Order* in WC Docket No. 10-90 *et al.* These attachments contain competitively sensitive data that Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. maintains as confidential and does not normally make available to the public. Release of this information would have a substantial negative impact on the Cooperative.

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Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan and Service Outage Reporting (Voice)

Pursuant to Section 0.459 of the Commission's rules and Exemption 4 of FOIA, Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. requests that the text and data extracted from its five-year service quality improvement plan and the Service Outage Reporting (Voice) be withheld from public inspection because it contains competitively sensitive commercial and financial information that the Cooperative keeps confidential. Public availability of this information would have a substantial negative impact on the Cooperative.

In accordance with Section 0.459 of the Commission's rules, the following information is provided in support of this request:

(1) Identification of the specific information for which confidential treatment is sought:

Attachment to Line 112 of FCC Form 481 – Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan. Specifically, confidential treatment is sought for all information in the five-year plan related to the Cooperative's access line counts, existing broadband capabilities, and its network investment plans through 2019 that will improve service quality for its customers.

Attachment to Line 200 of FCC Form 481 – Service Outage Reporting (Voice). Confidential treatment is sought for all information pertaining to network outages in the Service Outage Report specifically related to the Company's access line counts.

(2) Identification of the Commission proceeding in which the information was submitted or a description of the circumstances giving rise to the submission:

The information was submitted in WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 11-42 as an attachment to FCC Form 481- the Carrier Annual Reporting Data Collection Form. Section 100 of FCC Form 481 requires incumbent local exchange carriers receiving high cost support to attach a five-year service quality improvement plan, pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§54.202(a)(1)(ii) and 54.313(a)(1). Section 200 requires eligible telecommunications carriers to report outage information of at least 30 minutes in duration for each service area pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(a)(2).

(3) Explanation of the degree to which the information is commercial or financial, or contains a trade secret or is privileged:

The five-year service quality improvement plan contains granular information on the Cooperative's access line counts and existing broadband capabilities as well as detailed plans for financial investments in its network through 2019 to improve service to subscribers. The service outage information contains access line information which could cause harm to the competitive position of the Cooperative. Required information in both instances contain closely guarded, privileged information that the Cooperative does not make publicly available.

(4) Explanation of the degree to which the information concerns a service that is subject to competition:

Broadband service and voice service are both subject to increasing competition in the areas served by rural, rate-of-return incumbent local exchange carriers (RLECs). Virtually all RLECs face competition from one or more wireless providers that have voice and data plans. Most RLECs also face competition from at least one other wireline voice and broadband provider such as a larger cable company, who will typically seek to "cherry pick" the lower cost portions of the study area. In addition, all RLECs face competition throughout their territories from satellite providers.

(5) Explanation of how disclosure of the information could result in substantial competitive harm:

Disclosure of the information contained in the five-year plan and the outage reporting would provide competitors with detailed, granular information regarding the Cooperative's access line count, its existing broadband capabilities, and its strategic plans for network investments. This would give competitors invaluable confidential information with which to develop their own strategies for investing in the service area, thereby bringing substantial competitive harm to the Cooperative.

(6) Identification of any measures taken by the submitting party to prevent unauthorized disclosure:

The Cooperative has continually treated the extracted information in its five-year plan and access line counts provided in the service outage reporting as confidential and carefully controls the information to protect it from competitors. Access to the information is limited to employees that require it and to non-employees with confidentiality obligations such as lenders, consultants, auditors, and attorneys. In addition, when such information is required to be submitted to a state regulatory authority it has been filed as confidential information, not available to the public.

(7) Identification of whether the information is available to the public and the extent of any previous disclosure of the information to third parties:

The redacted information in the five-year plan and service outage reporting is not available to the public, and third party access is limited as described in (6) above.

(8) Justification of the period during which the submitting party asserts that material should not be available for public disclosure:

The Cooperative requests that the extracted information be withheld from public inspection indefinitely. Although the information reflects the Cooperative's service improvement plans for a five year period, it would provide a very useful baseline for competitors for several years beyond that period. The Cooperative also requests that the service outage information be withheld from public inspection because of the ongoing competitive harm it may cause.

(9) Any other information that the party seeking confidential information treatment believes may be useful in assessing whether its request for confidentiality should be granted:

Exemption 4 of FOIA shields from public disclosure commercial or financial information obtained from a person that is privileged or confidential. Based on the responses provided above, the information in question satisfies this test.

Financial Annual Report

Section 3005 of FCC Form 481 requires a privately-held rate-of-return carrier receiving high cost support to attach a full and complete annual report of the Cooperative's financial condition and operations pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(f)(2). Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. seeks confidential treatment of its financial annual report pursuant to the November 16, 2012 *Protective Order* in WC Docket No. 10-90, *et al.*¹ The *Protective Order* specifically covers information filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §54.313(f)(2).

Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. is providing to the Office of the Secretary, under seal, this cover letter and the Form 481 filing which includes the confidential information that is being requested to be withheld from public inspection.

¹ *Connect America Fund et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90 *et al.*, *Protective Order*, DA 12-1857 (rel. Nov. 16, 2012).



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Each page of the five-year service quality improvement plan confidential submission bears the legend, "CONFIDENTIAL – NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE."

Each page of the financial annual report confidential submission bears the legend, "CONFIDENTIAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION – SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER IN WC DOCKET NOS. 10-90, 07-135, 05-337, 03-109, CC DOCKET NOS. 01-92, 96-45, GN DOCKET NO. 09-51, WT DOCKET NO. 10-208, BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION."

Two copies of the Form 481 filing in redacted form and an accompanying cover letter are also being provided with the confidential filing. Each page of the redacted filing and accompanying cover letter is marked "REDACTED – FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION."

Two copies of this cover letter and the Form 481 filing with the confidential information are also being delivered to Mr. Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau.

The confidential information has also been submitted to the Universal Service Administrative Company through its E-File system as an attachment to the FCC Form 481.

This cover letter includes no confidential information and the text is the same in both the non-redacted and redacted versions except for the confidentiality markings.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lisa A. McLaughlin".

Lisa A. McLaughlin
Authorized Representative for
Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

LAM/pjf

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau,
Federal Communications Commission, (2 hardcopies of non-redacted submission)
Mr. Bob Wilson, Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0919
 July 2013

<010> Study Area Code	442168
<015> Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Darren Patrick
<035> Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

ANNUAL REPORTING FOR ALL CARRIERS		54.313 Completion Required	54.422 Completion Required
(check box when complete)			
<100> Service Quality Improvement Reporting	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<200> Outage Reporting (voice)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<210> <input type="checkbox"/> <-- check box if no outages to report		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<300> Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice)	0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<310> Detail on Attempts (voice)	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div> (attach descriptive document)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<320> Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband)	0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<330> Detail on Attempts (broadband)	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div> (attach descriptive document)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<400> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<410> Fixed	0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<420> Mobile	0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<430> Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broadband)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<440> Fixed	0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<450> Mobile	0.0	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<500> Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection Rules Compliance	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<510> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">442168tx510.pdf</div>	(attached descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<600> Functionality in Emergency Situations	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<610> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">442168tx610.pdf</div>	(attached descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<700> Company Price Offerings (voice)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<710> Company Price Offerings (broadband)	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<800> Operating Companies and Affiliates	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<900> Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)? <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>	(if yes, complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1000> Voice Services Rate Comparability	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1010> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">442168tx1010.pdf</div>	(attach descriptive document)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1100> Terrestrial Backhaul (Y/N)? <input checked="" type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>	(if not, check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1110>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<1200> Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to Price Cap Additional Documentation Worksheet			
Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers			
<2000>	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<2005>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additional Documentation Worksheet			
<3000>	(check to indicate certification)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<3005>	(complete attached worksheet)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**(100) Service Quality Improvement Reporting
Data Collection Form**

 FCC Form 481
 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
 July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrickwestex.coop
<110>	Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input checked="" type="radio"/>
<111>	If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing §54.202(a) "5 year plan" filed with the FCC?	(yes / no) <input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>

If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progress report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision of voice telephony service.

- <112> Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent years, your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your company is a CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.

442168tx112.pdf

Name of Attached Document

Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the wire center level or census block as appropriate.

- <113> Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets
- <114> Report how much universal service (USF) support was received
- <115> How (USF) was used to improve service quality
- <116> How (USF) was used to improve service coverage
- <117> How (USF) was used to improve service capacity
- <118> Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.

Data Collection Form

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

[illegible]

[illegible]

<010>	Study Area Code	412168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

(800) Operating Companies

Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WRS-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westat.com

<810>	Reporting Carrier	Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative
<811>	Holding Company	Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative
<812>	Operating Company	Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative

<813>	<a1>	<a2>	<a3>
	Affiliates	SAC	Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation

-- See attached worksheet --

**(900) Tribal Lands Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-G986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Name of Attached Document

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached document(s), on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

Select (Yes, No, NA)

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

Please check this box to confirm no terrestrial backhaul
 <1120> options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)

☐

Please check this box to confirm the reporting carrier offers
 <1130> broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps
 upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)

☐

(1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers**Lifeline****Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

442168tx1210.pdf

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP www.westex.coop

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- <1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, ☒
- <1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, ☒
- <1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. ☒

(2000) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation**Data Collection Form***Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers*

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance as a recipient of Incremental Connect America Phase I support, frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d),(e) the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting

<2010> 2nd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1)} ☐

<2011> 3rd Year Certification {47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2)} ☐

Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification (47 CFR § 54.312(a))

<2012> 2013 Frozen Support Certification ☐

<2013> 2014 Frozen Support Certification ☐

<2014> 2015 Frozen Support Certification ☐

<2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification ☐

Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support (47 CFR § 54.313(d))

<2016> Certification Support Used to Build Broadband ☐

Connect America Phase II Reporting (47 CFR § 54.313(e))

<2017> 3rd year Broadband Service Certification ☐

<2018> 5th year Broadband Service Certification ☐

<2019> Interim Progress Certification ☐

<2020> Please check the box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 2021, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year. ☐

<2021> Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3000) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	442168
<015> Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

CHECK the boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursuant to 47 CFR § 54.202(a)) and, for privately held carriers, ensuring compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

- (3010) Progress Report on 5 Year Plan
 Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i))

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

- (3011) Please check this box to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3012 contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), the carrier shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

☐

- (3012) Community Anchor Institutions (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii))

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

- (3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2))
 (3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report

(Yes/No)
 (Yes/No)

☒ Yes
☒ No

Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:

- (3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)
 (3016) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

☒
☒

- (3017) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation

442168tx3017.pdf

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

- (3018) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?

(Yes/No)

☒ Yes
☒ No

If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains

- (3019) Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications

☐

- (3020) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

☐

- (3021) Management letter issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.

☐

If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

- (3022) Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers,

☐

- (3023) Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant

☐

- (3024) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.

☐

- (3025) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

☐

- (3026) Attach the worksheet listing required information

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form	FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	442168
<015> Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients	
I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	
Signature of Authorized Officer:	Date
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form	PCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2013
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<010> Study Area Code	442168
<015> Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020> Program Year	2015
<030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>Lisa McLaughlin</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate.	
Name of Authorized Agent:	Lisa McLaughlin
Name of Reporting Carrier:	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
Signature of Authorized Officer:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/26/2014
Printed name of Authorized Officer:	J Wilson
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	Executive Vice President
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:	4327563393 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	442168 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2014
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier	
I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.	
Name of Reporting Carrier:	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	Lisa A. McLaughlin
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	CERTIFIED ONLINE Date: 06/26/2014
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	Lisa A. McLaughlin
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	Authorized Representative
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent:	5126527709 ext.
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	442168 Filing Due Date for this form: 07/01/2014
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.	

Attachments

(200) Service Outage Reporting (Voice)
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442158
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Derren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop
<220>		

$\langle 220 \rangle$

<a>

(b1)

<b2>

<b3>

<b4>

<c1>

<2>

<d>

<e>

<f>

<h>

[illegible]

Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

July 2013

<010> Study Area Code 442168

<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
-------	-----------------	-------------------

<020>	Program Year	2015
-------	--------------	------

<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
-------	---	----------------

<035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> 4327563393 ext.

<039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> dpatrick@westex.coop

<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date	1/1/2014
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<702> Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge

<703>

[illegible]

(710) Broadband Price Offerings
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrik@westex.coop

<711>	<a1>	<a2>	<b1>	<b2>	<c>	<d1>	<d2>	<d3>	<d4>
	State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rates and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached (select)
	TX	Ackerly	39.95	0.0	39.95	5.0	2.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Ackerly	54.95	0.0	54.95	10.0	3.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Ackerly	139.95	0.0	139.95	25.0	10.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Garden City	39.95	0.0	39.95	5.0	2.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Garden City	54.95	0.0	54.95	10.0	3.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Garden City	139.95	0.0	139.95	25.0	10.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Sand Springs	39.95	0.0	39.95	5.0	2.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Sand Springs	54.95	0.0	54.95	10.0	3.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Sand Springs	139.95	0.0	139.95	25.0	10.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Coahoma	39.95	0.0	39.95	5.0	2.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Coahoma	54.95	0.0	54.95	10.0	3.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Coahoma	139.95	0.0	139.95	25.0	10.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	St Lawrence	39.95	0.0	39.95	5.0	2.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	St Lawrence	54.95	0.0	54.95	10.0	3.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	St Lawrence	139.95	0.0	139.95	25.0	10.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Lomax	39.95	0.0	39.95	5.0	2.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Lomax	54.95	0.0	54.95	10.0	3.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Lomax	139.95	0.0	139.95	25.0	10.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Luther	39.95	0.0	39.95	5.0	2.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Luther	54.95	0.0	54.95	10.0	3.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance
	TX	Luther	139.95	0.0	139.95	25.0	10.0	0.0	Other, No limit on usage allowance

(710) Broadband Price Offerings
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2013

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrik@westex.coop

[illegible]

Data Collection Form

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2013

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2015
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	4327563393 ext.
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative
<811>	Holding Company	Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative
<812>	Operating Company	Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative

[illegible]

LINE 112 – FIVE-YEAR SERVICE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Following is the initial five-year service quality improvement plan for Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (“Wes-Tex” or “the Cooperative”) pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.202(a)(1)(ii) that requires an eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) to describe proposed improvements or upgrades to the ETC’s network throughout its service area. The *USF/ICC Transformation Order* establishes a public interest obligation for rate-of-return ETCs to provide broadband service at speeds of at least 4 Mbps downstream and 1 Mbps upstream (4:1) “upon reasonable request.” A service quality improvement plan cannot project where in the service area reasonable requests will be made. However, the proposed service improvements in this plan result in the availability of 4:1 or better service to a greater portion of the Cooperative’s service area than is currently available.

Although this plan is a good faith effort by the Cooperative, it is subject to change, given the uncertainty faced by ETCs regarding whether capital investments will be recoverable over the five year planning horizon. Factors that may affect the capital improvements plan include erosion of the customer base due to competition, alternative technologies, economic conditions in the service area, and unpredictable changes in the universal service support amounts an ETC receives.

Wes-Tex owns and operates 10 exchanges serving subscribers in rural west Texas. The service area includes portions of Borden, Dawson, Glasscock, Howard, Martin, Midland, Mitchell, Reagan and Sterling counties. This service area covers approximately 2,683 square miles.

Baseline Network Description

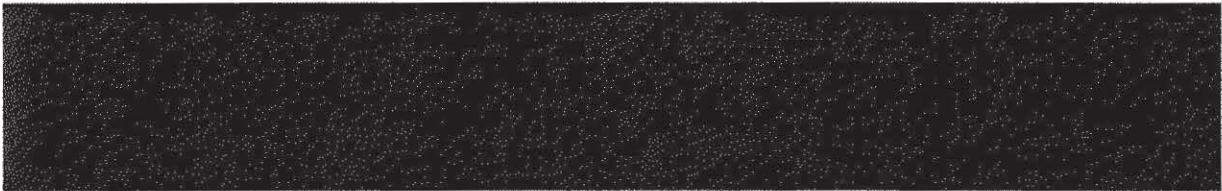


Table 1 – Current Broadband Capabilities

Exchange Name	Square Miles	Total Existing Access Lines	Estimated Total Population Served	Total Broadband Capable Lines	Estimated Broadband Capable Population	% Broadband Capable
[Redacted Table Content]						

2014 – 2019 Service Quality Improvement Plan

Table 2 provides Wes-Tex's intended service quality improvements and associated capital expenditures for 2014 – 2019, by exchange, along with estimates of the population that will be served by the improvements.

Table 2 – Service Quality Improvement Plan

Exchange	Description of Improvement	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Estimated Population Served by Improvements

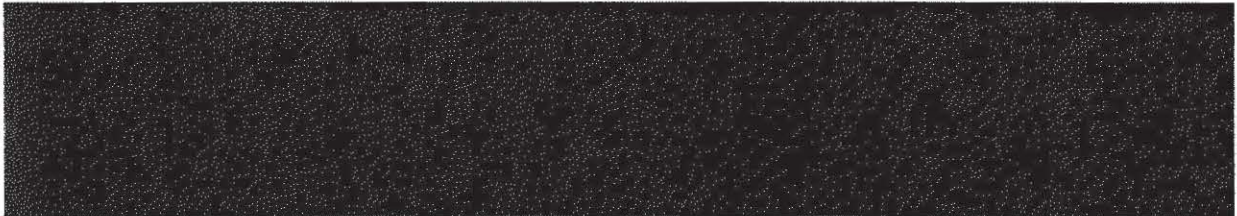
Narrative Description: 2014 – 2015



Lenorah, Luther, Ackerly and West Stanton



Narrative Description: 2016 – 2019



LINE 510 - SERVICE QUALITY STANDARDS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION RULES COMPLIANCE

Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (the Cooperative) complies with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules as required by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) and the Federal Communications Commission.

The rates, terms, and conditions under which the Cooperative operates are outlined in its Member Services Tariff, which is approved by the PUCT. The Cooperative's tariff contains provisions regarding its customer service and protection practices, including resolving disputes with the Cooperative, applying for service, the classification of business and residential rates, deposits, billing and payment for service, refusal, disconnection and cancellation of service. The tariff is available for customer review in the Business Office, as requested. Rates and terms of service are disclosed to customers upon application for service both verbally and in writing as part of a packet of information for new customers. Rates, applications and certain terms of service are also available on the Cooperative's website.

Service quality standards for voice service are established by the PUCT and the Cooperative consistently meets or exceeds the standards and provides reports to the PUCT, in accordance with the state commission rules.

With regard to broadband service, the Cooperative provisions its network and equipment to ensure that its customers can enjoy the speeds to which they subscribe. However, Internet speeds generally result from a "best effort" service and are dependent upon a number of variables, many of which are outside the control of the Cooperative.

Finally, the protection of customers' privacy and information is of utmost importance and the Cooperative has a policy and established operating procedures that comply with the FCC's Customer Proprietary Network Information Rules (47 C.F.R. §§64.2001-64.2011). Certification and a description of those operating procedures are filed at the FCC annually.

LINE 610 - ABILITY TO FUNCTION IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (the Cooperative) is able to function in emergency situations. The Cooperative has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations. Standby power generators are supplied at the central office, remote switch sites, and repeater sites to ensure functionality without an external power source until power is restored. Any central office not equipped with permanently installed standby generators contains as a minimum four hours of battery reserve without voltage falling below the level required for proper operation of all equipment. In addition, all central offices without installed emergency power facilities have a mobile power unit available which can be delivered and connected on short notice.

Although the Cooperative's ability to reroute traffic around damaged facilities is not absolute and may be limited in certain circumstances, there is a restoration plan in place for expeditious recovery of service.

LINE 1010 – VOICE SERVICES RATE COMPARABILITY

The Wireline Competition Bureau's most recent reasonable comparability benchmark for voice services is \$46.96, which includes the federal subscriber line charge ("SLC").¹

In the exchanges served by Wes-Tex Cooperative, Inc. ("the Cooperative"), the highest single-line residential local rate, including any mandatory extended area service charge, is \$14.15. When the federal SLC and the state universal service fee are added, the total is less than the reasonable comparability benchmark of \$46.96.

¹ *Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Results of Urban Rate Survey for Voice Services; Seeks Comment on Petition for Extension of Time to Comply With New Rate Floor*, WC Docket No. 10-90, DA 14-384 (rel. Mar. 20, 2014), p. 2.

LINE 1210 – TERMS & CONDITIONS OF VOICE TELEPHONY LIFELINE PLANS

Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc., (the Cooperative) provides qualified Lifeline Subscribers a Federal Lifeline discount of \$9.25 applied to the Federal Subscriber Line Charge (SLC) of \$6.50 with the remainder applied to the stand-alone residence monthly access line rate and a state Lifeline discount of \$3.50. The exchange access line rates include an unlimited amount of local calling minutes. Additional charges for toll calls associated with the stand-alone residential access line are billed at the rates of the long distance carrier chosen by the subscriber. Qualified Lifeline customers may also subscribe to Residential Service Package for Residential customers with the same reductions applied against that portion of the package rate that is for basic network service. This plan includes an unlimited nationwide long distance calling plan, tone dialing and a choice of custom calling features. Attached are the pages from the Cooperative's Member Services Tariff including pages describing the terms and conditions of Lifeline service.

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES:

A. Rates for the following Exchanges are shown in Paragraph 1 below:

<u>EXCHANGES</u>	<u>SERVICE AREAS</u>
Ackerly (353)	- with Extended Area Service to Big Spring Exchange of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
Lenorah (459)	- with EAS to the Stanton Exchange of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
Lomax (398)	- with EAS to the Big Spring Exchange of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
Luther (399)	- with EAS to the Big Spring Exchange of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company
West Stanton (458)	- with EAS to the Stanton Exchange of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company

1. Schedule of Rates and Charges

(a) Business Service: MONTHLY RATES

1-Party Exchange Access Line	\$13.40	D
Key Trunk Hunting Exchange Access Line	15.40	I
PBX Trunk Exchange Access Line	21.00	

(b) Residence Service:

1-Party Exchange Access Line	10.65	D
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(1) Offered temporarily only where facilities to provide one-party service are not available.

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES: (Continued)

B. Rates for the following Exchanges are shown in Paragraph I below:

<u>EXCHANGES</u>	<u>SERVICE AREAS</u>
Garden City (354)	- with EAS to the St. Lawrence Exchange
St. Lawrence (397)	- with EAS to the Garden City Exchange
Vincent (965)	- Local Exchange Service only
1. Schedule of Rates and Charges	

(a) Business Service: MONTHLY RATES

1-Party Exchange Access Line	\$13.09	I D
Key Trunk Hunting Exchange Access Line	13.75	I
PBX Trunk Exchange Access Line	20.62	I D

(b) Residence Service:

1-Party Exchange Access Line	10.34	I D
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(1) Offered temporarily only where facilities to provide one-party service are not available.

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES: (Continued)

C. Rates for the following Exchanges are shown in Paragraph 1 below:

<u>EXCHANGES</u>	<u>SERVICE AREAS</u>
Coahoma (394)	- with EAS to the Big Spring Exchange of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company and the Sand Springs Exchange
Sand Springs (393)	- with EAS to the Big Spring Exchange of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company and the Coahoma Exchange

1. Schedule of Rates and Charges:

MONTHLY RATES

(a) Business Service

1-Party Exchange Access Line	\$12.59	I D
Key Trunk Hunting Exchange Access Line	19.25	
PBX Trunk Exchange Access Line	21.00	I

(b) Residence Service

1-Party Exchange Access Line	7.15	I D
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- (1) Offered temporarily only where facilities to provide one-party service are not available.

By: J. R. Wilson
Title: Manager

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES (Continued)

D. Residential Service Package - All Exchanges (1)

The Cooperative offers certain services together in a package, providing discounts over the cost of purchasing the services individually. Available services and rates for packaging are specified below.

Local Exchange Services	All-In-One Package
Single Residential Access Line	X
Tone Dialing Service	X
Unlimited Nationwide Long Distance	X
Any or all of the features listed below:	X
Calling Name and Number Delivery	
Anonymous Call Rejection	
Call Block	
Call Forwarding	
Call Return	
Call Waiting	
Priority Call	
Repeat Dialing	
Selective Call Forwarding	
Three-way Calling	
Total Package Price:	\$48.00 per month

- (1) Unlimited Nationwide Long Distance service is provided by Wes-Tex Telecommunications, Inc.

By: J. R. Wilson
Title: Manager

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

III. LIFELINE PROGRAM

The Lifeline Program is a retail local service offering designed to make telephone service available at reduced rates to qualifying low-income customers.

A. General

1. A qualifying low-income customer subscribing to the Lifeline Program shall receive federal and state reductions to their monthly tariffed residential local exchange access line rate. When a Lifeline customer subscribes to a package of services, those same reductions will apply to that portion of the package rate that is for basic network service.

2. Nothing in this section shall prohibit a customer who is otherwise eligible for the Lifeline Program from obtaining and using telecommunications equipment and services designed to aid such customer in utilizing qualifying telecommunications services.

3. Lifeline Program reductions do not apply to surcharges, taxes, long distance service, 976 and other information related telecommunications services, and optional services such as custom calling features. Customers may obtain these services, where available, at their discretion.

4. The Lifeline Program rate reductions do not apply to service connection charges.

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

A. General (Continued)

5. The Cooperative may not disconnect the service of a Lifeline Program customer for the non-payment of toll charges. However, the Cooperative reserves the right to implement toll blocking, at no charge, if the customer incurs a significant balance of unpaid toll bills. The Cooperative will inform the customer, by direct mail, of this change to their service due to the customer's non-payment of toll charges. Upon the customer's payment of all outstanding toll charges, the Cooperative shall remove mandatory toll blocking at no charge.

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6. Upon subscribing to the Lifeline Program, a customer will be offered a subscription, at no charge, to toll blocking service (in exchanges where technically available) which denies the customer access to the long distance telecommunications network; however, the customer is under no obligation to accept the subscription to toll blocking upon initial subscription to the Lifeline Program.

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7. The Lifeline Program rate reductions will not be available on a retroactive basis unless approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas or the Low-Income Discount Administrator (LIDA).

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B. Designated Lifeline Program Services

The Cooperative shall offer voice telephony services that provide the following functionalities as designated Lifeline Program services:

1. Voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent
2. Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to the customer
3. Access to emergency services
4. Toll blocking service

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MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

C. Eligibility Requirement

1. Qualifying Low-Income (Eligible) Customer Criteria

An eligible customer shall be defined as an individual whose annual household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines or in whose household resides a person who receives or has a child who receives benefits from at least one of the following programs:

- a. Medicaid
- b. Food Stamps (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) T
- c. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- d. Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- e. Low-Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- f. Health benefits coverage under the state Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- g. National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program N
- h. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families |
N

The Lifeline Program rate reductions will be provided to each eligible customer. The Low-Income Discount Administrator (LIDA) will provide a list of eligible customers to the Cooperative each month.

2. Obligations of the Customer

a. Customers whose annual household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines or who participate in FPHA or LIHEAP programs may self-enroll for Lifeline Program benefits by completing an application form and returning it to LIDA. LIDA will send a blank application upon customer request. LIDA can be reached at 1-866-4LITEUP. Current customers receiving benefits under Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI or CHIP will be subject to the Lifeline Program automatic enrollment procedures as provided by the LIDA unless they provide a written request to the LIDA to be excluded from the Lifeline Program.

b. A customer who is eligible for the Lifeline Program but does not have telephone service at the time the LIDA provides its eligibility list to the Cooperative, shall be responsible for initiating a request for the Lifeline Program from the Cooperative.

By: J. R. Wilson
Title: Manager

Effective: June 1, 2012

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

C. Eligibility Requirement (Continued)

3. Obligations of the Cooperative

a. LIDA will provide a list of eligible customers to the Cooperative on a monthly basis. Upon receipt of the list, the Cooperative shall begin reduced billing for those customers within 30 days.

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4. Discontinuance of Service

a. Discontinuance of Lifeline Discounts for customers automatically enrolled. The eligibility period for automatically enrolled customers is the length of their enrollment in Texas Health and Human Services Commission (THHSC) benefits plus a period of 60 days for renewal. Automatically enrolled customers will have an opportunity to renew their THHSC benefits or self-enrollment with LIDA upon the expiration of their automatic enrollment.

b. Discontinuance of Lifeline Discounts for customers who have self-enrolled. Individuals not receiving benefits through THHSC programs, but who have met Lifeline income qualifications, are eligible to receive the Lifeline Discount for seven months, which includes a period of 60 days during which the customer may renew their eligibility with LIDA for an additional seven months.

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

C. Eligibility Requirement (Continued)

4. Discontinuance of Service (Continued)

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D. Deposit and Credit Requirements

1. The Cooperative shall be prohibited from charging a service deposit in order to initiate the Lifeline Program if the eligible customer voluntarily elects to receive toll blocking.

2. The Cooperative may charge a service deposit if the eligible customer denies subscription to toll blocking upon subscribing to the Lifeline Program.

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3. In instances where the Cooperative may require a service deposit, the same credit verification procedures and deposit regulations used for all applicants who apply for service with the Cooperative are also applicable to eligible customers for the Lifeline Program.

By: J. R. Wilson
Title: Manager

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

E. Service Connection Charges

1. Service connection charges do not apply to eligible customers with existing, qualifying service converting to the Lifeline Program.

2. Service connection charges do apply when:

a. Existing eligible customers request additional non-qualifying services at the time Lifeline program reduced billing is initiated.

b. New customers (those without existing local exchange access service) eligible for the Lifeline Program establish qualifying service.

c. Customers make subsequent moves or changes after initial connection to the Lifeline Program.

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WES-TEX TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC.
STANTON, TEXAS

SECTION 4
2nd Revised Page 15
Replacing 1st Revised Page 15

MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

F. Lifeline Program Rate Reduction

1. Implementation

The Cooperative shall provide reduced billing to all Lifeline Program eligible customers within its service area in accordance with the Commission's Substantive rules.

In instances where a customer inquires about participation in the Lifeline Program, the Cooperative shall provide contact information for LIDA.

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By: J. R. Wilson
Title: Manager

LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

II. APPLICATION OF RATES (Continued)

C. Lifeline Program (Continued)

6. Lifeline Program Rate Reduction (Continued)

b. Amounts

The Cooperative shall apply Lifeline Program rates, per eligible customer, as described below.

	<u>Monthly Rate Reduction</u>	
		D
		D
1) Federal Reduction applied to Federal Subscriber Line Charge and Residential Local Exchange Access Line Charge	47.C.F.R. Section 54.403	T
2) Maximum State Reduction to Residential Local Exchange Access Line Rate	\$3.50	T

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is xxx. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average x hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

USDA-RUS FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL REPORT FOR BROADBAND BORROWERS	This data will be used by RUS to review your financial situation. Your response is required by 7 U.S.C. 901 et seq. and, subject to federal laws and regulations regarding confidential information, will be treated as confidential.	
	BORROWER NAME Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc.	
	ADDRESS Stanton, Texas	
INSTRUCTIONS-Submit report to RUS within 15 days after close of the period.	PERIOD ENDING December, 2013	BORROWER DESIGNATION TX1116

CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that:

1. the entries in this report are in accordance with the accounts and other records of the system and reflect the status of the system to the best of our knowledge and belief; and
2. we have fulfilled our obligations under the Loan Documents throughout the year in all material respects

ALL INSURANCE REQUIRED BY 7 CFR PART 1788, CHAPTER XVII, RUS, WAS IN FORCE DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD AND RENEWALS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED FOR ALL POLICIES.

- ☒ All of the obligations under the RUS loan documents have been fulfilled in all material respects.

☐ There has been a default in the fulfillment of the obligations under the RUS loan documents. Said default(s) is/are specifically described in the notes section of this report.

james wilson

01/31/2014

DATE

PART A. BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	BALANCE END OF PERIOD	LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	BALANCE END OF PERIOD
CURRENT ASSETS		CURRENT LIABILITIES	
1. Cash and Equivalents		16. Accounts Payable	
2. Cash-RUS Construction Fund		17. Notes Payable	
3. Accounts Receivable		18. Current Mat. L/T Debt - RLIS	
4. Notes Receivable		19. Current Mat. UT Debt-Other	
5. Materials and Inventory		20. Current Mat.-Capital Leases	
6. Other Current Assets		21. Other Current Liabilities	
Total Current		Total Current	
7. Assets (1 thru 6)		22. Liabilities (16 thru 21)	
NONCURRENT ASSETS		LONG-TERM DEBT	
8. Investment in Affiliated Companies		23. Funded Debt-RUS Notes	
9. Other Noncurrent Assets		24. Funded Debt-RTB Notes	
PLANT, PROPERTY, AND EQUIPMENT		25. Funded Debt-FFB Notes	
10. Telecom. Plant-in-Service		26. Funded Debt-Other	
		Total Long-Term	
11. Plant Under Construction		27. Debt (23 thru 26)	
12. Plant Adj., Nonop. Plant, & Goodwill		OTHER LIAB. & DEF. CREDITS	
13. Less Accumulated Depreciation		28. Other Long-Term Liabilities	
Net Plant		EQUITY	
14. (10 thru 12 less 13)		29. Cap. Stock Outstand. & Subscribed	
		30. Additional Paid-in-Capital	
		31. Membership and Cap. Certificates	
		32. Patronage Capital Credits	
		33. Retained Earnings or Margins	
		34. Total Equity (29 thru 34)	
TOTAL ASSETS		TOTAL LIABILITIES AND	
15. (7+8+9+14)		35. EQUITY (22+27+28+34)	

Total Equity = % of Total Assets

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**FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL REPORT
FOR BROADBAND BORROWERS**

BORROWER DESIGNATION

TX1116

PERIOD ENDING

December, 2013

PART B. STATEMENTS OF INCOME AND RETAINED EARNINGS OR MARGINS

ITEM	YEAR-TO-DATE
1. Local Network Services Revenues	
a. Voice	
b. Video	
c. Internet	
i. Broadband	
ii. Other	
2. Network Access Services and Long Distance Revenues	
3. Miscellaneous Revenues	
4. Other Operating Income	
5. Uncollectible Revenues	
6. Net Operating Revenues (11 thru 4 less 5)	
7. Plant Specific Operations Expense	
8. Plant Nonspecific Operations Expense (Excluding Depreciation & Amortization)	
9. Customer Operations Expense	
10. Corporate Operations Expense	
11. Other Operating Expenses	
12. Total Operating Expenses (7 thru 11)	
13. Operating Income or Margins (6 less 12)	
14. Nonoperating/Nonregulated Net Income	
15. EBITDA (13 + 14)	
16. Depreciation Expense	
17. Amortization Expense	
18. EBIT (15 - 16 - 17)	
19. Interest on Funded Debt	
20. Other Interest Expense	
21. Taxes	
a. Property	
b. Income	
22. Total Net Income or Margins (18-19-20-21)	
23 Dividends Declared (Common)	
24 Dividends Paid	
25 Transfers to Patronage Capital	
26 Principal Payments on Long Term Debt and Capital Leases	
27 TIER (19 + 20 + 22) / (19 + 20)	

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PART C. SERVICES					
		1. RATES		2. SUBSCRIBERS	
		Residential	Business	Residential	Business
No.	SERVICE OFFERINGS	(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)
	Broadband Data Packages				
1	5M/2M				
2	10M/3M				
3	512K/256K				
4	1.5M/512K				
5	3M/1M				
	Voice Packages				
6	Voice/LD				
7	Local service				

<p align="center">USDA-RUS</p> <p align="center">FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL REPORT FOR BROADBAND BORROWERS</p>				<p>BORROWER DESIGNATION TX1116</p> <hr/> <p>PERIOD ENDING December, 2013</p>	
<p align="center">PART C. COMMUNITIES</p>					
No.	Community	County	State	No. Broadband Data Customers	Broadband Application
1	Other Area	Borden	TX		
2	Other Area	Dawson	TX		
3	Other Area	Glasscock	TX		
4	Coahoma town	Howard	TX		
5	Other Area	Howard	TX		
6	Other Area	Martin	TX		
7	Other Area	Midland	TX		
8	Other Area	Reagan	TX		

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PART D. STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS		
1.	Beginning Cash	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
2. Net Income		
Adjustments to Reconcile Net Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		
3. Add: Depreciation		
4. Add: Amortization		
5. Other (Explain) See notes.		
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities:		
6. Decrease/(Increase) in Accounts Receivable		
7. Decrease/(Increase) in Materials and Inventory		
8. Decrease/(Increase) in Other Current Assets		
9. Increase/(Decrease) in Accounts Payable		
10. Increase/(Decrease) in Other Current Liabilities		
11.	Net Cash Provided/(Used) by Operations	
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
12. Decrease/(Increase) in Notes Receivable		
13. Increase/(Decrease) in Notes Payable		
14. Plus/(Less) Net Increase/(Decrease) in Long Term Debt (including current maturities)		
15. Plus: Increase/(Less: Decrease) in Capital Stock, Paid-in Capital or Membership and Capital Certificates		
16. Less: Payment of Dividends		
17. Other (Explain) See notes.		
18.	Net Cash Provided/ (Used) by Financing Activities	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
19. Net Capital Expenditures		
20. Long-Term Investments		
21. Other (Explain) See notes.		
22.	Net Cash Provided (Used) by Investing Activities	
23.	Net Increase/ (Decrease) in Cash	
24.	Ending Cash	

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		PERIOD ENDING December, 2013	
PART E. BIP PERFORMANCE MEASURES			
		New Broadband Service	Improved Broadband Service
1. Number of households subscribing to			
2. Number of businesses subscribing to			
3. Number of educational providers receiving			
4. Number of libraries receiving			
5. Number of health care providers receiving			
6. Number of public safety providers receiving			

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Notes to Operating Report - Broadband

